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STAR OF MYSORE

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COVID Care Centres in all Assembly segments

Zone-wise Care Centres on cards; MCC calls for door-to-door survey volunteers

Mysuru, May 23 (SBD&BCT)- In another effort towards decentralisation of COVID management, the Mysuru District Administration is setting up COVID Care Centres (CCCs) in all the Assembly constituencies and also in Zones for more localised management. Though the taluks of Mysuru have 18 CCCs, there is no dedicated CCC within the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) limits.

Though a full-fledged CCC has been established at the Academic Bhavan of Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) near Mysore Airport at Mandakalli, it is outside the MCC limits and the CCC admits all patients even from city and taluks.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rohini Sindhuri holding a meeting with Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Shilpa Nag and other officials in city yesterday.

At a meeting held yesterday, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rohini Sindhuri asked MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag to open CCCs in all the three Assembly Constituencies — Chamaraja, Narasimharaja and Krishnaraja — and if possible open Zone-wise CCCs.

She asked the Corporation to do door-to-door survey thoroughly so that all symptomatic cases are identified and all Urban Primary Health Centres, Corporation Health Officers and all Corporation staff, along with ASHA and Anganwadi workers and volunteers, must participate in this door-to-door survey. The DC directed them to complete the survey by the end of this month as early screening of all is essential to control the pandemic.

Even in taluks, all the door-to-door survey must be completed on the lines of Pulse Polio campaign. This will help in early detection and also identification of symptomatic people and treatment, the DC said.

MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag said that the Corporation has already called for ward-level volunteers for the door-to-door survey. The volunteers have to be with ward-level teams and do basic testing of temperature and oxygen levels of public. Before the volunteers get on to the field, vaccination will be done, she informed.

(See CENTRES on page 12)

'My late mother's phone is filled with her memories'

Girl pleads with Kodagu DC, MLAs to find stolen phone from COVID Hospital

Little Hrithiksha holds the letter she has written to the Kodagu DC and MLAs.

Kushalnagar, May 23 (Akshay&BCT)- A little girl who lost her mother to killer Corona has made a fervent appeal to the Kodagu Deputy Commissioner (DC) Charulata Somal, two MLAs of the district K.G. Bopaiah and M.P. Appachu Ranjan and also to the staff of Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) to find her mother's mobile phone which has been stolen from a KIMS ward, where her mother was admitted.

Thefts of mobile phones from KIMS, the designated Kodagu District COVID Hospital, has become common and many patients who lost their loved ones at the hospital have reported that the mobile phones have not been retuned with the bodies in case of deaths. Many have vented their ire on social media and also complained to the DC and the MLAs. According to patient relatives, there is not even one Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras inside the hospital for surveillance. Last week, a doctor, Shivakumar, was caught red-handed while accepting a bribe of Rs. 5,000 from a person to give good treatment to his loved one who has been admitted at KIMS. The doctor has been suspended now.

Holding the letter in her hand, Hrithiksha, daughter of a painter in Kushalnagar, has said that the phone had some of the best photos of her mother and she has to lead a life without her (mother). "Please find and return my mother's phone," she appealed.

Narrating her story, Hrithiksha said that her family of three tested COVID positive and her mother was admitted to KIMS where she died due to complications.

"I and my father are in home isolation now and we are not in a position to go out of the house. We depend on help from neighbours for food and other essentials. My mother died on May 16 and someone has taken her mobile phone as it was not returned to us when the body was handed over," she wrote in the letter.

(See PHONE on page 7)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 23rd May 2021

SWR Mysuru Division observes Anti-Terrorism Day

Mysuru, May 23- South Western Railway (SWR) Mysuru Division had organised Anti-Terrorism Day on May 21 to wean away youth from terrorism and the cult of violence by highlighting the sufferings of common people and showing as to how it is prejudicial to the national interest.

As part of the programme, Rahul Agarwal, Divisional Railway Manager, administered a pledge at the Divisional Office. Devasahayam Akasi, Additional Divisional Railway Manager- I and B. Srinivasulu, Additional Divisional Railway Manager- II, attended the function with minimum participation as per the directives of the Ministry of Health in view of COVID-19 pandemic.

The pledge was taken at respective offices of all the Branches, Sections and Depots of the Division. The oath urged to uphold and promote peace, social harmony and understanding among all fellow human beings and fight the forces of disruption threatening human lives and values.

Anti-Terrorism Day is observed every year on May 21, the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who, on this day in 1991, was assassinated by terrorists while campaigning for Congress party at Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Across the country, citizens turned amplifiers and put social media to good use, posting links to where people could access food, medicine, ambulances, hospital beds with oxygen, receive medical advice and counselling for their COVID anxieties online. There has been no dearth of citizen volunteers to track, compile and verify COVID resources. This is not their day job, mind you, they do this alongside their professional and personal commitments. But this time around, the demands have far outstripped the supply and so we are left in the lurch despite these wonderful people, bless their generous hearts. This, however, is a double-edged sword. Private groups rushing in to fill the yawning gaps left by the 'system' is a wonderful gift but, given the inherent callousness of that very system, this could lead to a moral and physical stepping away in the endless upcoming cycles of the virus: build the alternate narrative, make the placatory statements, fudge the numbers, release ads saying all is under control, hold the necessary photo-ops, and then drop out of sight. Bail out.

Because the citizens have understood that to survive, they need to help themselves, and so will get down to it, doing the system's work. The late great poet WH Auden said, we must love one another or die. Alas, our ingrained prejudices, the flames fanned expertly by the powers that be, do not let us love one another. Civil society is trying its hardest not to let the second option pull us under. But what if they too run out of initiatives?

—Shiela Kumar in The New Indian Express

NEWS SPARKLERS

Arrest warrant for man in bizarre theft

Selma, Alabama: Police in Alabama have issued an arrest warrant for a man in connection with the bizarre theft of a Confederate monument that was taken from an Alabama cemetery and found in Louisiana.

Selma Police charged Jason Warnick with theft in connection with the mysterious disappearance of the chair-shaped monument, Dallas County District Attorney Michael Jackson said. Warnick was already facing charges of possession of stolen property after Police said the monument ended up in his New Orleans tattoo shop.

An attorney for Warnick said he denied being involved with the theft, which sparked national news stories before the monument was recovered. The chair-shaped monument is valued at $500,000 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

11-year-old earns world record for mental math

Florida: An 11-year-old Florida girl earned a Guinness World Record for mental math when she solved a 12-digit multiplication problem without a calculator, pen or paper. Sanaa Hiremath, who was diagnosed with Autism at age 2, started showing an unusual aptitude for math when her parents started to home-school her, mother Priya Hiremath told the media.

"We introduced the concept of multiplication for her for the very first time and she was able to answer instantly," Hiremath said. The girls' father, Uday, said she had actually failed math before switching to home-schooling.

"They tested her on math," Uday said, "They gave her pencil and paper and told her to write 1-20 and she could not because she can't hold the pencil because she has fine grip, she has poor motor issues."

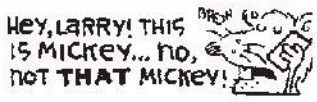
HEALTH CAPSULE

Worried about your cholesterol level? Use black cumin seed in your diet to lower the bad cholesterol. It also helps in boosting memory, improves fasting blood sugar level, protects liver, and improves metabolism. Chewing a few seeds helps in getting rid of bad breath as well.

By Kavya J. - Department of Nutrition & Dietetics

COLUMBIA ASIA
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE
(A unit of Manipal Hospitals)

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*



A just-released study revealed that rats with the most exposure to 900-MHZ radio frequencies during their 2-year life span showed a greater risk of developing gliomas, a malignant tumour of the brain. The percentage of rats that developed gliomas was very small, but the rats that were not exposed to radio waves had no gliomas.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAY 21	MAY 22
Day's Positive Cases	2,355	2,526
Total Positive Cases	1,21,987	1,24,513
Day's Discharges	2,991	2,094
Total Discharges	1,07,934	1,10,028
Day's Deaths	12	9
Total Deaths	1,465	1,474
Total Active Cases	12,588	13,011

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

ASHA workers to stage online protest on May 24

Mysuru, May 23- Seeking fulfilment of their various demands, which chiefly included payment of Rs.5,000 as monthly honorarium just as being paid to Corona warriors, ASHA workers will stage a State-wide online protest on May 24.

Pointing out that there are 42,000 ASHA workers in the State, the Karnataka State Samyukta ASHA Workers Association said that ASHA workers, apart from engaging in Mother and Child healthcare, are engaged in COVID contact tracing, door-to-door visits and other supplementary COVID duties.

Seeking facilities and safety equipment on the lines of Corona warriors of the Health Department, the Association said that online protest will be staged against the Government on May 24 on fulfilment of its various demands, which are just and fair under the present trying circumstances.

REALLY...?

- *Iceland is the only country in the world with no mosquitoes.*
- *The language of Iceland, Icelandic, has remained vastly unchanged from Old Norse.*
- *There are now robots that are so life-like that they can copy human expressions like smiling, sneering, frowning and squinting.*
- *In two weeks, the Sun produces as much energy as that stored in all the coal, gas and petrol reserves that there have ever been on Earth!*
- *The Earth's core is about the same size as the Moon.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Little Mary's towel stolen during the school swimming class...
Irritated mother confronts class teacher: *What kind of petty thieves are in class with my child?!*
Teacher calmly replies: *I'm sure it was picked up by someone by mistake, What does it look like?*
Mother: *It's white.*
Teacher: *Almost every towel is white, any other mark?*
Mother: *"Indian Railways A/C coach" is printed on it !!??*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 72.91
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 103.17
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.85
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.81

VOICE OF THE READER

Applause and food for thought to donors

Sir,

I really appreciate the initiatives taken by various clubs and organisations in extending support to the needy during these trying times. The act of distributing food packets to the underprivileged deserves a huge applause. However, it would be more appealing to see it done in a thoughtful way. In almost all the photos pertaining to food donation articles published in *Star of Mysore*, I spot plastic water bottles predominantly. I do agree that nutritious food should be accompanied by clean drinking water but the single-use plastic can definitely be avoided.

For instance, the organisers can facilitate potable water using water dispensers and the recipients can be asked to use their own cups or water bottles. This will also ensure that sufficient water is provided rather than restricting it at one bottle per person. Such an alternative will require cooperation from the people but will nevertheless effectively address the contamination issue in an eco-friendly manner.

I strongly believe that consideration towards environment is the need of the hour as we have probably by now fully realised the enormous value of oxygen especially during the prevalent pandemic.

—J. Divya

Mysuru
20.5.2021

Kollegal lass becomes country's first woman Flight Test Engineer

Kollegal, May 23- Sqn Ldr Ashritha V. Oleti of Indian Air Force, hailing from Kollegal in Chamarajanagar district, has been selected as the country's first woman Flight Test Engineer and has brought laurels to the State.

Sqn Ldr Ashritha V. Oleti

Daughter of late O.V. Venkatesh Babu and O.V. Vani couple, she has obtained degree from Indian Air Force Test Pilot School, one of the most prestigious training schools in the world. This degree is said to be most difficult and challenging but she has passed out with flying colours, thanks to her grit and determination.

This training school was started in 1973 and so far, 275 persons have obtained degree from this prestigious training institute. She has become the first woman to obtain this degree from this training school. The job of Test Pilot Engineer is to examine thoroughly any new induction of airplanes.

Karnataka Govt. lying about COVID-19 cases dropping: Siddu

Bengaluru, May 23 (UNI)- Digging on the ruling BJP Government on hiding COVID-19 cases, Leader of the Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Siddharamaiah on Saturday alleged that Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa administration was "lying" to the people about cases coming down in the State, underlining the drop in the number of tests being done.

In a series of tweets, he said as on April 25 circular issued by National Health Mission (Karnataka) Director Dr. Arundhati Chandrashekar, according to which random testing of asymptomatic persons has been suspended until further orders.

The actual reason behind the CM's lie that COVID cases are reducing is the BJP's Government circular that asymptomatic persons should not be tested. Siddharamaiah said.

"It is this foolish decision of the BJP Government, due to which COVID isn't coming under control in spite of the lockdown," Siddharamaiah argued. "There are chances that an infected person, who isn't tested because of no symptoms, will infect many others with the Coronavirus."

Congress leader cited testing numbers to buttress his argument. "The Chief Minister boasted that case numbers fell from 49,000 in the first week of May to 38,000 within days of imposing a lockdown. But, he did not say that the number of tests went down from 1,77,560 on April 1 to 97,000 on May 17," he said.

COVID phobia keeps heart patients away from Hospitals

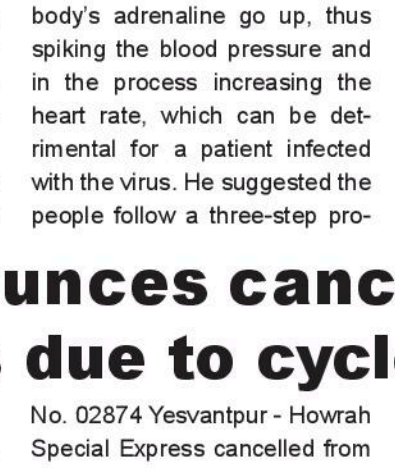
Trend worrying, say Cardiologists; more worrisome is many people are dying due to fear of Coronavirus

Mysuru, May 23 (SBD&BCT)- Fearing Coronavirus spread at Hospitals, regular patients with heart problems or strokes are staying away from visiting Hospitals for their regular check-ups. This is risky, say doctors. Even the data shows that the number of severe heart attacks being treated at Hospitals had dropped by nearly 40 percent, leaving Cardiologists worried.

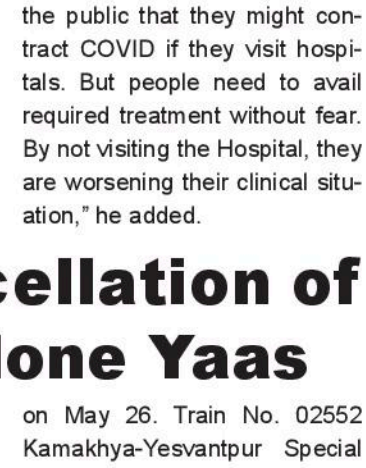
"The reduction in volume of patients visiting Hospitals is concerning. We have to assume that the disease prevalence for heart attacks has not changed, which brings me back to the initial concern that patients are trying to manage their complaints at home because they are potentially afraid of getting exposed to virus in a Hospital setting," Dr. C.N. Manjunath, Cardiologist and Director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bengaluru, told *Star of Mysore*.

"Even if one contracts the COVID disease, many patients die due to fear of the disease. This is called 'virus fear' and sadly many casualties here are due to the fear and the resultant heart attacks. From the first wave to the on-going second wave, people dying from COVID-related heart attacks have doubled and this is a matter of concern," the reputed Cardiologist said.

COVID is infecting people of all age at a rapid pace. There are many instances of heart attacks in many patients without any pre-existing history of any heart-related ailment. While patients with a history of heart-related illness or those who had stents installed in their hearts or have undergone a bypass surgery are found to be seeking medical help for enhanced symptoms after they contracted Coronavirus disease, what is worrying is that in some cases patients with no pre-existing history of cardiac ailment reportedly got an attack.



Dr. C.N. Manjunath



Dr. K.S. Sadananda

"In most cases, patients complained of chest pain and could be rescued but in some instances, the attacks are so quick and acute that they cannot be revived," Dr. Manjunath said adding that anxiety plays an important role in patients infected by Coronavirus.

He said anxiety makes the body's adrenaline go up, thus spiking the blood pressure and in the process increasing the heart rate, which can be detrimental for a patient infected with the virus. He suggested the people follow a three-step process to get relief from anxiety. "One, you must exercise to keep your immunity up; two, you must do de-stressing techniques daily no matter whether you are infected or not; and the third is to maintain a healthy nutrition by consuming at least 30-40 grams of protein every day," he said.

Dr. K.S. Sadananda, Medical Superintendent, Jayadeva Hospital, Mysuru, said that with the number of COVID cases rising, fewer patients are visiting Hospitals for other issues. There has been a 60 to 70 percent decrease and now there is a lockdown too. "There is fear among the public that they might contract COVID if they visit hospitals. But people need to avail required treatment without fear. By not visiting the Hospital, they are worsening their clinical situation," he added.

SWR announces cancellation of 12 trains due to cyclone Yaas

Hubballi, May 23 (UNI)- South Western Railway (SWR), in a statement, here on Saturday announced that the following 12 trains were cancelled due to cyclone Yaas which is expected to strike on May 23:

Train No. 02245 Howrah - Yesvantpur Special Express will be cancelled from Howrah on May 25 and 26, Train No. 02246 Yesvantpur-Howrah Special Express will be cancelled from Yesvantpur on May 24 and 25, Train No. 02510 Guwahati-Bengaluru Cantt Special Express stands cancelled from Guwahati on May 24 and 25, Train No. 02873 Howrah-Yesvantpur Special Express cancelled from Howrah on 24, 25 & 26, Train No. 02874 Yesvantpur - Howrah Special Express cancelled from Yesvantpur on May 24, 25 and 26. Train No. 05228 Muzaffarpur-Yesvantpur Special Express cancelled from Muzaffarpur on May 24, Train No. 08463 Bhubaneshwar-KSR Bengaluru Special Express cancelled from Bhubaneswar on May 26 and 27.

Train No. 08464KSR Bengaluru-Bhubaneswar Special Express will be cancelled from KSR Bengaluru on May 25 and 26, Train No. 02249 KSR Bengaluru-New Tinsukia Special Express will be cancelled from KSR Bengaluru on May 25. Train No. 02254 Bhagalpur -Yesvantpur Special Express will be cancelled from Bhagalpur on May 26. Train No. 02552 Kamakhya-Yesvantpur Special Express stands cancelled from Kamakhya on May 26 and Train No. 02864 Yesvantpur-Howrah Special Express will be cancelled from Yesvantpur on May 26.

NEWS BRIEFS

Zoo animals adopted

The following individuals / institutions have adopted the animals of Mysuru Zoo under 'Adoption of Animals' scheme by paying the adoption fee: Meghana Manjunath, Bengaluru - White Peacock & Indian Flapshell Turtle (Rs. 5,500); Dr. Hemath Pandarpurkar, Bengaluru - Small Indian Civet (Rs. 5,000); Himathram, Mysuru - Hoolock Gibbon (Rs. 10,000); H.R. Basavaraju, Bangalore - Leopard Cat (Rs. 5,000); J. Likitha, Mysuru - Star Tortoise (Rs. 2,000), according to a press release from the Zoo Executive Director.

Pharmacists appeal for vaccine prioritisation

Suvarna Karnataka Chemists and Distributors Association has appealed the Government to prioritise vaccination of all those engaged in the Pharmacy supplies and distribution system. In a memorandum, the Association said that it is regretful to note that the Government has ignored the staff engaged in Wholesale and Retail pharmacy supplies and distribution in the prioritisation of vaccination. Pharmacy staff are closely engaged with members of the public, and with close physical contacts, the pharmacy staff are always exposed to the risk of contracting the deadly COVID virus.

Ph.D awardee

JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER) has awarded Ph.D in Pharmacy to R.S. Savitha for her thesis 'Assessment of clinical and economic impact of pharmacist intervention in patients with chronic kidney disease' [Guide: Dr. M. Ramesh].

WATER LEVEL

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2264.07 feet
Inflow	:	1,361 cusecs
Outflow	:	725 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,822.12 feet
Inflow	:	99 cusecs
Outflow	:	80 cusecs

Hungry tribes forced to eat less

They enter forests in search of roots, tubers as food grains from Government is hard to come by

H.D. Kote, May 23 (Beechanahalli Manju)- At a time people from villages who had migrated to cities for earning a livelihood are now returning to their native villages due to the deadly COVID pandemic, the story of tribals in H.D. Kote taluk is a different one, with tribals turning to Forests for finding their food.

People living in tribal hamlets, especially those along the Forest borders, are venturing into the forests in search of roots and tubers, as they are short of ration that is provided by the Government.

Somesh, a tribal youth of Maalada Haadi in the taluk, told *Star of Mysore* that their livelihood has lied in shatters after the outbreak of the deadly pandemic last year. Arguing that the life of tribals had become a hell for want of work and income, he said that the pandemic has returned to haunt them this year too as it did last year.

Noting that the COVID-induced lockdown has resulted in the stoppage of all activities and developmental and infrastructure works, he said that they are now left jobless and no other place to go. "Life has become a hell in the absence of livelihood and income," he added. Continuing, he said that the story of others in his hamlet is no different.

Pointing out that those who had migrated to cities and towns in search of work are now returning back to the hamlet due to COVID scare, Somesh said that each tribal family has 5 to 10 members and the ration provided by the Government is just not enough to overcome hunger.

Observing that adults can somehow earn their food through other means, he expressed concerns about the fate of children and the aged who cannot work. Asserting that many tribals are suffering from malnutrition, he wondered what will be the fate of children and immobile habitants of hamlets in the absence of food and other essentials.

Contending that it was inevitable for most of the tribals to venture into the forests for gathering starchy roots, stems and tubers which are staple food for them, he said that despite finding them, it has become a challenge to feed children and the elderly in hamlets.

Accusing the Government, people representatives and officials of completely ignoring tribals in this critical times, he urged the Government to at least respond to tribal issues now.

Stating that following the Corona outbreak last year, some philanthropists and donors had come forward for distribution of ration, food packets and medical kits, he said that unfortunately, this year, no such thing is happening and no one is coming forward to help them in this hour of crisis.

Meanwhile, Forest Origin Tribals Federation Secretary Shailendra, speaking to *Star of Mysore* said that many Adivasi families are yet to get ration cards and as such these families are not getting sufficient quantities of ration at this critical juncture when the COVID pandemic is causing havoc across the globe.

Pointing out that those in urban areas are getting ration without much problems, he said that the situation in hamlets is very disappointing with tribals left to fend for themselves.

Arguing that the Government should home-deliver ration to Adivasi children studying in Ashram schools just like delivery of ration to school children who are deprived of Mid-Day Meals on account of closure of schools, he wanted the Government to come to the rescue of tribals at this intriguing times.

On vaccine hesitancy among tribal population, Shailendra said that the tribals are reluctant even though the Health Department has conducted several awareness programmes and educated the tribals on the importance of getting vaccinated for their own health and safety. It is up to the Government to further convince the vaccine scary tribals for getting jabs, he added.

1,270 additional vials of Amphotericin-B allocated to Karnataka

Bengaluru, May 23 (UNI)- Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers D.V. Sadananda Gowda on Saturday said that ensuring adequate allocations to Karnataka in view of rising cases of Mucormycosis, a total of 1,270 additional vials of Amphotericin-B have been allocated to the State.

In a series of tweets, he said that it is in addition to 1,660 vials allocated in 2 weeks. This will help to cure Black Fungus patients. With cases of Mucormycosis or Black Fungus increasing, the Government has allocated 23,680 additional vials of Amphotericin-B to various States and Union Territories (UTs), he said.

The allocation has been made based on the total number of patients which is around 8,848 across the country, he noted.

"After a detailed review of rising no. of cases of #Mucormycosis in various states, a total of 23,680 additional vials of #Amphotericin- B have been allocated to all States/UTs today," Gowda tweeted.

Women Loco Pilots steer Oxygen Express to Bengaluru

They cover 120 km in one-and-a-half hours; clock an average speed of 80 kmph

Bengaluru, May 23 (UNI&Agencies)- An Oxygen Express train carrying 120 metric tonnes of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) from Jharkhand and piloted by an "All Female Crew" from Jolarpettai in neighbouring Tamil Nadu arrived in Bengaluru yesterday. The pilots covered the last 120 km stretch in one-and-a-half hours, clocking an average speed of 80 kmph.

"The 7th Oxygen Express to Karnataka has arrived in Bengaluru from Tatanagar (Jamshedpur). This Oxygen Express train piloted by an all-female crew will ensure continued supply of oxygen for COVID-19 patients in the State," Railway Minister Piyush Goyal tweeted and has posted the video from his Twitter handle. The video shows the crew driving the train in the night.

According to the South Western Railway, Loco Pilot Sireesha Gajini and Assistant Loco Pilot R.P. Aparna drove the train from Jolarpettai to Bengaluru. "All-women crew piloting an Oxygen Express is rare because we don't have many women loco-pilots in Railways," Chief Public Relations Officer of South Western Railways Aneesh Hegde said.

Loco Pilot Sireesha Gajini and Assistant Loco Pilot R.P. Aparna drive the Oxygen Express train from Jolarpettai to Bengaluru.

"We started our journey from Jolarpettai and drove till Whitefield in Bengaluru. It was altogether a different experience as we got all clear signals on this stretch and we could achieve such a good speed. It was raining and it was a nice experience," Assistant Loco Pilot Aparna said.

Loco Pilot Sireesha Gajini also said the experience was different as they did not need to wait anywhere. When they drive other good trains, halting at stations and different spots is quite common. But due to perfect coordination, Oxygen Express trains are reaching the destinations in less time. "The railways always encouraged women participation and this is one of such opportunities for us. We are proud of doing our bit," she said.

It may be mentioned here that on May 19, Assistant Loco Pilot Neelam Kumari was part of the Loco Pilot team that had brought one more Oxygen Express via Jharkhand-Jolarpettai-Bengaluru. The other team members were Loco Pilot Dhirendra Kumar and V.H. Wali, Chief Loco Inspector.

Reacting on the feat, Neelam Kumari said that she was extremely satisfied and felt proud that she could be of some help during this COVID crisis.

"I really felt like an ambulance driver. The entire path was cleared for us and made signal-free making it easy to bring the train to safety," she said.

MP Simha urges DC, DHO and ZP CEO to visit rural areas

Mysuru, May 23 (MTY&SSV)- Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha has opined that non-visiting of senior district officers like Deputy Commissioner (DC), District Health Officer (DHO) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Zilla Panchayat (ZP) to rural areas to take stock of the situation has been the root cause for the surge in Corona positive cases and deaths in villages.

"These officers sit in offices and take information via video-conference. So, they don't know the real picture in villages. When Co-operation and District in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar can visit villages what is preventing DC, DHO and ZP CEO from going to rural areas," he questioned, speaking to reporters here yesterday.

Simha said while the Corona positive cases and mortality was decreasing in rural areas, it was increasing in villages. Treatment was not given to Corona positive patients as per the Government specifications in Taluk Hospitals and COVID Care Centres. It looks there has been something wrong in line of treatment. Around 60-70 persons have died in each taluk due to COVID and it was really a dangerous development.

He said three MLAs from Mysuru — L. Nagendra, S.A. Ramdas and Tanveer Sait — were doing excellent job in their respective constituencies. While MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev has been managing bed for Corona patients, Jungle Lodges and Resorts Chairman M. Appanna has been taking care of last rites of Corona victims, D. Devaraja Urs Backward Classes Corporation Chairman Kautilya Raghu, despite personal tragedy, has been managing War Room efficiently, he added.

20 Black Fungus cases

"Around 20 persons have died of Black Fungus infection in city so far. Others are being treated in K.R. Hospital and private hospitals. The State Government has taken care of providing treatment for them. Earlier, each Corona positive patient was given six Remdesivir injection during the course of treatment, but patient with Black Fungus needs six Remdesivir injection at one time. This has caused its shortage. Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has asked pharmaceutical companies to ramp up the production of injection to treat Black Fungus cases. The availability of medicines is expected to be streamlined in 2-3 days."

—MP Pratap Simha

Pat for MCC Commissioner

"The number of Corona positive cases and deaths are decreasing in city due to efforts of MCC Commissioner **Shilpa Nag.** She has swung into action since beginning and launched house-to-house health check-up for detection and treatment of COVID asymptomatic people. This has saved many lives. Similarly, COVID Tele Care Service has been successful as the patients call to take doctors advice. She has managed to rope the services of a Kannadiga doctor from abroad in counselling patients," said MP Pratap Simha.

'DC, DHO must visit villages to understand people's problems'

Mysuru, May 23 (SSV)- Co-operation and District in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar has said senior officers including Deputy Commissioner (DC) must visit villages to understand the prevailing problems.

When reporters brought to his notice about Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha's statement that the DC, DHO and other officers must also visit villages as holding video-conference will not help, he said what Simha has said was 100 percent right. Be it DC or any other officer, they will understand local problems only if they visit all places and interact with Legislators, he added.

STEP-DOWN CENTRE

Somashekar said there was a plan to start Step-Down Centre to have a watch on those who have come out after the COVID treatment. The Suttur Seer, Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, has permitted to use the Mutt hostels and community halls for this purpose. The COVID recovered patients require attention for a few days. Since there will be children at home it was better to house them in Step-Down Hospitals for some days.

He thanked the Suttur Seer for his initiative to provide free accommodation and free education to those kids whose

S.T. Somashekar

parents died of Corona so that they were not denied education.

The Seer has given permission to make use of schools and hostels of the Suttur Mutt in Mysuru, Chamarajanagar and Kollegal, and has agreed to feed everyone free of cost. This will benefit around 6,000 people, the Minister said.

He said the Seer has donated six loads of firewood to conduct cremation of those who died due to Corona. It was happy to note that the Suttur Mutt was responding to every request of the State Government, he added.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, MLA L. Nagendra, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, Jungle Lodges and Resorts Chairman M. Appanna, Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy, MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag, MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh and others were present.

Togged in PPE suit... LAB TECHNICIANS make a difference

A lab technician takes a power nap before resuming her busy work.

A Home Guard quenches the thirst of a lab assistant after she finishes two hours of hectic sample collection.

Mysuru, May 23 (LNY&BCT)- Along with the team of doctors, frontline workers and healthcare staff, who are working to minimise the devastating impact of COVID-19 pandemic, there is a dedicated team of lab technicians who are collecting samples for RT-PCR tests at over 10 points in city.

Among the swab-collection centres across Mysuru city, the centre located at Chikka Gadiyara (Dufferin Clock) is the busiest with long queues at any given point of time. They collect throat swab (oropharyngeal) and nasal swab (nasopharyngeal) samples of potentially infected persons.

The second wave is stretching lab technicians, lab supervisors and non-medical lab technologists to the limits, as it does all others in the medical fraternity. The process of swab sample collection of a person does not take more than 30 to 40 seconds but it is a high risk job, say experts. There are eight to ten teams of lab technicians who have been deputed by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) to this job relentlessly since the first wave of the pandemic.

Testing peaked when the second wave started and now the State Government has drastically cut the daily testing by half — from 7,500 to 3,500. A swab-collection point typically collects 150 samples per day which was earlier at 200 to 300 samples. These lab technicians, lab supervisors too face steep challenges as they dispense their duty in these difficult times.

A TIRING JOB

"Along with doctors and nurses who are generally considered frontline workers, we also play an important role every day," Aiman Rifa, who has been collecting swab samples since August last year told *Star of Mysore*.

After completing her lab technician course, she was working at a private laboratory from where she has been assigned this work.

"It is a tiring job, wearing a PPE kit and we don't take rest at all. In our four to five hour schedule, we hardly take 5 minutes break and here too, we cannot remove the PPE kits. Amidst the fast paced work, we cannot even touch a water bottle and most of the times, other staff at the swab-collection centre pours water from a bottle to quench our thirst," she said.

A swab-collection centre is typically handled by three to four persons. While one person is assigned to do data entry with mobile phone (taking Aadhaar Card), the other writes the VTM (the name and SRF ID written on the RT-PCR tube after samples are collected), the other person writes down details in a book. Unless the data is entered on mobile phone, SRF ID is not generated and without this, there is no test.

A lab technician takes RT-PCR samples from a person at Chikka Gadiyara premises.

ALWAYS ALERT

"A 10 to 12 cm long stick is used to collect sample from a person's throat, while the stick used for collecting sample from nose is comparatively longer and thinner. Before the person coughs or sneezes, we need to finish sample collection," Aiman Rifa added. They need to stay alert as the swab samples are to be sealed immediately and kept in a proper storage facility.

The most noticeable part of their work is putting on the PPE suit and continuing in it. It obviously does not make for comfort, only safety. "It is sweaty inside and there is a lot of discomfort. But we have to do our job," she said.

They have a 4-hour tight schedule and after collecting samples, they visit District Health Office at Nazarbad to deposit the samples and from there, they are sent to various laboratories. All samples come here for centralised lab distribution.

"After our team leaves the centre, other team takes over. We distribute work among ourselves and take turns. Earlier, we used to collect 250 samples a day and now it has reduced a bit," said B.G. Amulya who has been collecting samples since seven months.

Amulya has completed her lab technician course at a private institution and is pursuing B.Sc course in the online mode as offline classes are not possible now. "We need to finish the work in a short time to avoid contact with patients and also with those who come to give their swab samples," she said.

COVID Lockdown: Chief Secretary instructs Cops to arrest those arguing with them

2,272 vehicles seized from May 7 till 22 in city

City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta seen addressing Police Officials during the meeting at his Office yesterday as DCP (Law and Order) Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda looks on.

Ravikumar

Bengaluru/Mysuru, May 23 (KMS&KS)- Chief Secretary Ravikumar, following suggestion from Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, has instructed City Corporation Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and senior Police officials to act tough on those violating COVID Lockdown regulations issued by the State Government and seize vehicles moving around unnecessarily after purchase hours (6 am to 10 am).

The Chief Secretary has also instructed the Police to arrest those who indulge in arguing with them under National Disaster Management Act.

"Do not release seized vehicles under any pressure. Let the owners of zseized vehicles pay fine and get their vehicles release after lockdown closes," the order stated.

Strict implementation of order in Mysuru

Following instructions from the Chief Secretary, City Police have swung into action and are implementing the lockdown guidelines strictly. The Police, using the public addressing system fitted to their vehicles are going around city and instructing the public to maintain social distancing and compulsorily wear face masks while they (public) go out for purchases between 6 am and 10 am besides instructing shops selling essentials to start closing the business from 9.30 am.

Meanwhile, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta chaired a meeting at his Office yesterday and instructed the Police Officers to implement the order strictly.

The City Top Cop, in a press release has stated that following the extension of lockdown till June 7 to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the COVID Lockdown guidelines issued earlier would continue and urged the public to co-operate with the Cops by following the guidelines and prevent the spread of the deadly virus.

2,272 vehicles seized, 1,785 cases registered, Rs. 3,29,600 fine collected

The Mysuru City Police, who are manning city roads, circles, junctions, etc. in city to prevent unnecessary movement of people and vehicles on city roads, have seized a total of 2,272 vehicles — 2,152 two-wheelers, 76 cars, autorickshaws and 44 other vehicles — in city from May 7 to 22.

A total of 1,785 cases have been registered against those not wearing face masks and maintaining social distancing. A total of Rs. 3,29,600 spot fine has been collected from the offenders.

As many as 19 cases under The Disaster Management Act – 2005 and The Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act- 2020 has been registered against shopkeepers and traders for conducting business by flouting the norms, according to a release.

Death of three leopards at Belavadi

Preliminary clues point at intentional poisoning

Investigations on, viscera samples sent to laboratories

The dashing Rana sniffs the criminal's scent; picture right shows the carcasses being cremated

Mysuru, May 23 (MTY&KS)- The Police and the Forest Department have taken the case of killing three leopards in Mysuru seriously. The felines were found dead yesterday in a poisoning case.

Teams have intensified their investigation to nab the miscreants involved in this heinous crime. This is for the first time that an incident of leopard poisoning has taken place in Mysuru area.

The carcass of the leopardess and her two cubs were found by a few villagers in the early hours of yesterday morning at a coconut and mango plantation in Belavadi. Poison-laced food in a plastic packet and a half eaten carcass of a dog were also found nearby.

Early reports yesterday had indicated that someone wanted to kill a dog by poisoning and the leopards were killed as the felines had consumed the dead dog meat. Later it turned out that the dog was killed intentionally and after its death, pesticides were poured on its carcass. The leopards died after consuming the pesticide-laced dog carcass.

After registering a case under the Wildlife Act, post-mortem was conducted and the samples of the dead leopards were sent to the Forensic Science Lab (FSL) and Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals in Bengaluru. The carcasses were cremated in the presence of Forest officials.

Meanwhile, the officials, who had summoned Police sniffer dogs and the dashing German Shepherd Rana of Bandipur, pressed them into service. Rana, along with the Police dogs, who began their search, went to a house and stopped there.

The Police and Forest officials questioned the resident of the house. But the Police and Forest staff seized the resident's mobile phone for examining and on searching the house, the officials found a sharp weapon which has been sent to the FSL.

Mines and Geology Dept. to part with

30 percent of its revenues for COVID management

Mysuru, May 23(RKB&DM)- Declaring that the Mines and Geology Department will dedicate 30 percent of its revenue for COVID management, Mines and Geology Minister Murugesh Nirani said that the Government can use this money for improving medical infrastructure at hospitals in the State.

Speaking to press persons at the Deputy Commissioner's Office here this morning after holding a progress review meeting of the Department, he pointed out that the Mines and Geology Department has Rs.1,600 crore funds right now and it has been decided to dedicate 30 percent (which means Rs. 480 crore) of this funds exclusively for COVID management in the State.

Noting that Mysuru district has lesser number of mines as compared to Mandya and Chamarajanagar, he said that the Department will soon float a global tender for carrying out a survey on the quantity and quality of mineral deposits in all districts of the state. "In Mysuru district, the survey will be chiefly carried out for any granite, graphite and nickel deposits," he pointed out and added that this statewide survey will help to explore the untapped vast mineral resources.

When questioned about the confusion regarding transportation of various types of sand (River sand, M-sand etc.), he said that all issues concerning sand will be resolved through a comprehensive and practical policy, which will be formulated soon.

Replying to a question on filing of cases even for transportation of petty quantities of river sand, Nirani asserted that no FIRs will be filed against those transporting sand on bullock carts, two-wheelers and three-wheelers meant purely for individual use.

Stating that the State Government was doing everything to check the spread of the pandemic, he said that the Government is mulling on granting grace marks for Ayurveda and Nursing students who take part in COVID duties.

DC Rohini Sindhuri, Geologist Rashmi, Mines and Geology Department Joint Director Mahanteshappa, Deputy Director Lakshmamma, DCF Dr. K.C. Prashanth Kumar, Additional SP R. Shivakumar and other officials were present.

'My late mother's phone'

(Continued from page 1)

"I have become an orphan now and my mother's phone contained all her good photos. All her memories are stored there. If someone has taken or have found my mother's phone, please return it," she has appealed. Today, a complaint has been lodged in Kushalnagar Police Station in this regard. "The hospital authorities returned the luggage but did not return the mobile phone. My daughter is deeply disturbed," Hrithiksha's father told *Star of Mysore*.

Usually patients are rushed to the COVID-designated hospital in an unconscious state or critical condition and attendants are not allowed to stay with them. The only means of contact with them is through phone, or when officials pass on information about the patient's condition.

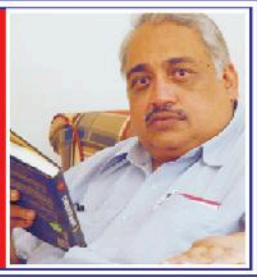
"Since family members are not able reach the patients through phones, they start to panic about their condition. It is unfortunate that mobile phones are being stolen at the Kodagu District Hospital. There is not even a single CCTV camera inside the Hospital so that at least someone can monitor the activities," said Vasanth Kumar, a COVID volunteer in Madikeri.

Usually, the Hospital does not allow any valuable items like gold ornaments, money, credit cards, documents, etc. when patients get admitted. They hand over the valuables to relatives at the gate and take their signatures. Only mobile phones are allowed as the relatives have to contact the patients, said hospital authorities, requesting anonymity.

"It is inhuman to steal patients' belongings. Most of the doctors and workers are putting their lives at risk to serve patients. It is painful to know that some of them are doing such things," he added.

Over a cup of evening Tea

By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD



The need for a more Dynamic Lockdown !

The Karnataka Government has announced the extension of the ongoing, nearly month-long lockdown for a further two weeks. Yes, it is the same kind of lockdown in every way that we have been having over the last four weeks. **This suggests that no one in the Government think tanks have really applied their minds, over the past one month, on how to make lockdowns effective in controlling the pandemic while at the same time controlling to some extant the joblessness and consequent hunger of those standing without work or wages in the large unorganised sector which constitutes almost half our population.**

The Government has announced very loudly that a fairly huge relief package of Rs. 1,250 crore would be credited directly to the bank accounts of the same old beneficiaries of Government generosity, based on the same data of last year's applicants. **It does not say anything about what happens to all those who are just as miserable but have for some reason failed to apply for relief last year. And it has also not taken into consideration the plight of the many who have become eminently qualified to be called miserable over the past one year!**

Relief is welcome and, in our country, it certainly makes every one of the recipients very happy but beyond giving that momentary happiness it cannot do much in the long run. **What the man on the street needs today is an opportunity to move his hands and legs and earn his daily bread with regularity, day after day. And, that is exactly what our country needs too, to be called a nation of hard-working people which can make it stand out in the eyes of the world.**

Although it needs to be extended by a couple of hours because it is causing unsafe overcrowding at shops, the daily morning four-hour relaxation of the lockdown is no doubt helping people to buy their daily requirements of provisions and it is consequently helping all those who sell these items too, to make a living.

But here I am speaking about the plight of the daily wage earners who have no work and no income now. **The month that has gone by without any earnings and the time it takes for the relief amount to reach their bank accounts will certainly add up to a very long time. And, when you are hungry and desperate for a meal this wait is going to be unusually and needlessly painful.** I use the word needlessly because it really is a needless torture and it could have been avoided if only the Government had thought of making carefully planned changes in the provisions of our lockdown every time it was extended.

Now, with all other businesses classified as 'non-essential' remaining completely closed down, the cobbler, the carpenter, the electrician, the plumber, the painter, the mason, and the mechanic are all without jobs. Only by opening all the other businesses, at least for a limited time every day and allowing them to go about their jobs, in small teams, with due precautions, we could have given them a chance to procure their work materials and go about their jobs, earning their daily bread with dignity and a sense of pride instead of standing at their doorsteps wringing their hands in despair. And, things at home like refrigerators, deep freezers, ovens, lights, fans, water pumps, washing machines, cars and two-wheelers do need regular maintenance.

Now with no access to spare parts all those who are in the business of repairing them are jobless. My own washing machine has conked out at the wrong time and although I know a man across the street who can set it right, he is unable to get a small spare part to do it. My car is in need of a new battery for the past one month and there is simply no place where I can buy one from.

While a man like me can sit at home and wait for his car to come back to life, think of the plight of those self-employed owners of mini-trucks and luggage autos and the home delivery boys also who are rendered completely jobless simply because they cannot find a mechanic to fix the faults with their wage-earning workhorses.

Our Government in a statement yesterday has said that the already month-long lockdown is being extended for two more weeks on the advice of its team of experts. The question I would like to ask here is why the 'experts' who have advised our Government to go ahead with the same kind of insensitive lockdown did not think of the many flaws in its provisions?

Yes, we do need some kind of regimentation to control the raging pandemic on a war-footing because what we are fighting is indeed a war of the worst kind. It was only because of our complacence that we lost the battle with the first wave of the pandemic. But our war should be guided by some common sense if not uncommon intelligence.

So, all the restrictions on eating out, celebrating weddings, going to movies and congregating for all other reasons, will certainly help and they are essential for some more time. And, our civic authorities and the Police personnel particularly are doing a great job of enforcing all the provisions of our lockdown.

But all daily wage earners need to be given a supervised chance to earn their livelihood. So instead of blindly doling out relief to all those who apply for it, we can differentiate between who should be given a chance to earn their livelihood and the most helpless who need some monetary help. That way we can save a good lot of our taxpayer's money from just going down the drain and put it to much better use, like creating some much-needed medical facilities for all those who are now desperately rushing from hospital to hospital in search of a bed for their loved ones. **That way the Government will be doing some real rather than symbolic good to all those who need it most at a very difficult time. Do think about it!**

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'No Govt. Hospitals in district must face oxygen, medicine scarcity'

T. Narasipur, May 23 (SSV)- Co-operation and Mysuru District-in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar has said that no Government Hospital in the district must face shortage of medicines to treat COVID positive patients in the wake of extension of lockdown till June 7.

He was speaking after visiting various Primary Health Centres in T. Narasipur Assembly Constituency yesterday. He wanted those who have taken to the first dose of vaccine to take the second dose at Government Hospitals.

The Minister said the Black Fungus disease was spreading in the district and it required immediate attention. "COVID positive patients must be isolated at home or admit them to the hospital of their choice. Officers of Health Department are free to conduct any number of tests from morning to evening for early detection of cases. Now, district was getting 47 KL oxygen. Let the people need not worry about vaccination or medicines," he added.

He said that crowding of people in markets or banks without following the guidelines may push up the positive cases. Hence, those who gather in large in public places must be imposed fine.

T. Narasipur MLA Ashwin Kumar said that medicines were distributed house to house in the current lockdown period and requested the Government to send the medicines in sufficient quantity.

SP C.B. Ryshyanth, Tahsildar Nagesh, Taluk Health Officer Dr. Ravikumar, Dr Vijay Kumar, Dr. Rashmi, Dr Yogesh Doora and others were present.

Two villages in Nanjangud taluk reports zero Corona cases; Minister to visit soon

Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri seen interacting with a villager during her visit to Hucchagani village Nanjangud taluk as SP C.B. Ryshyanth and other officials look on.

Mysuru, May 23 (SSV)- Two villages in Nanjangud Taluks including Katanur have not reported a single COVID positive case. Since these two villages are model for the whole State, he would visit those villages next week to seek how they have been able to do it so that it can be replicated in other villages, said Co-operation and District-in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar.

He was talking to reporters in Nanjangud after visiting Primary Health Centres and meeting at Taluk Panchayat here yesterday.

The Minister said on the one hand the number of Corona positive cases are increasing in taluk and on the other hand the number of discharge of people after recovering was also climbing up. But there is a need to create awareness among people about Covid. Already, MLAs, Deputy Commissioner and Tahsildar have held meetings regarding setting of an oxygen plant in the premises of Nanjangud PHC.

Earlier, the Minister visited Kotaiyanahundi and Kodlur Covid Centres in Varuna Assembly Constituency to study its functioning and found that there has been shortage of oxygen, doctors, medical staff in these two PHCs and recruitment of doctors has started.

DC Rohini Sindhuri, who visited Hucchagani Village in Nanjangud taluk yesterday, interacted with villagers and officials and took stock of the situation.

MLAs Dr Yathindra Siddharamaiah and Harshavardhan, DC Rohini Sindhuri, SP C.B. Ryshyanth, Tahsildar Mohankumari and others were present.

Hotel Owners Association seeks waiver of Bar Licence fee

C. Narayanagowda

Mysuru, May 23 (RK&DM)- With bars and restaurants facing a crisis due to COVID induced lockdown, the Mysuru Hotel Owners Association has appealed the Government to waive off bar licence fee for the year 2021-22.

In a press release, Association President C. Narayanagowda said that CL-9, CL-7 and CL-4 category Bar Licence holders are fighting for survival in the wake of lockdown.

As such, the Government must come to their rescue by waiving off the licence fee for the year 2021-22 as a form of package for bar and restaurant owners, who are facing a financial crisis due to loss of business

Reminding the Government that bar and restaurant owners have paid the licence renewal fee in full for the year 2020-21 when the deadly pandemic broke out last year, Narayanagowda appealed the Government to come to their rescue at this critical juncture, with the second wave of the virus attack causing huge havoc.

Olympic Wrestler Sushil Kumar, wanted in murder case, arrested in Delhi

Sushil Kumar

New Delhi, May 23- Wrestler Sushil Kumar, India's two-time Olympic medallist, was arrested this morning over alleged involvement in the murder of a fellow wrestler in Delhi. He had been evading arrest for nearly 20 days, Delhi Police said.

Sushil Kumar was arrested along with a co-accused from northwest Delhi's Mundka, police officials said.

Police were on the lookout for Sushil Kumar for his alleged involvement in the death of a 23-year-old wrestler at a Stadium in Delhi.

"A team of Special Cell led by Inspector Shivkumar, Inspector Karambir and supervised by ACP Attar Singh has arrested Sushil Kumar and Ajay from Mundka area of Delhi in connection with the killing of 23-year-old Sagar Rana at Chhatrasal Stadium," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) P.S. Kushwah said.

According to Police, Sushil Kumar and his associates assaulted fellow wrestler Sagar Rana, 23, and his two friends on May 4 at the National Capital's Chhatrasal Stadium. All three had to be hospitalised. Rana later died of his injuries.

The Delhi Police had announced a reward of Rs. 1 lakh for information leading to the arrest of Sushil Kumar, who had since been on the run.

Another reward of Rs. 50,000 was announced for Ajay Kumar's arrest.

Police have been raiding several places in Delhi and its surrounding cities, and neighbouring States, to arrest the champion wrestler.

On May 18, Sushil Kumar had approached the Rohini court seeking protection from arrest, claiming that the probe against him was biased and that no injuries caused to the victim were attributable to him. The Court, however, dismissed his anticipatory bail plea, saying he was prima facie the main conspirator and allegations against him were serious in nature.

Non-bailable warrants were issued against him and six others. This came days after a lookout notice was issued against the wrestler.

Sushil Kumar won a bronze medal in 2008 Beijing Olympics and a silver medal in 2012 London Olympics.

Obituary

P. B. Prabhu

Mysuru, May 23- P.B. Prabhu (80), retired University of Mysore Finance Officer and a resident of Vivekanandanagar, passed away yesterday following brief illness.

He leaves behind his son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

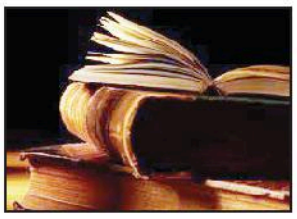
Last rites were held today, according to family sources.

Fayaz Ahmed

Fayaz Ahmed (73), retired South Western Railway employee and a resident of Shanthinagar, near Tameem Masjid, passed away yesteday night at a private hospital in city, following brief illness. He leaves behind his wife, three sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Namaz-e-Janaza and burial took place at the Muslim Burial Grounds near Tipu Circle this afternoon.

WORD OF THE DAY

Hapax legomenon



Pronunciation: hap-aks li-gom-uh-non, hey-paks.
Meaning: Word or phrase that appears only once in a manuscript, document, or particular area of literature.
Origin: The phrase hapax legomenon, comes from Greek hápax legomenon, composed of the adverb hápax "once, one time" and the neuter singular present passive participle legómenon "(being) said," from the verb légein "to say." (Hapax is also used by itself in English as a noun; the plural of hapax legomenon is hapax legomena.) One famous hapax—as far as these things go—is the adjective epioúsion in the phrase árton... epioúsion in the clause "(Give us this day our) daily bread," in the Lord's Prayer in the gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke. The Greek noun ártos means "wheat bread, bread (in general)" and presents no problem. Epioúsion may mean "(enough) for today, today's, next day's, necessary, sufficient." Epioúsion is variously translated in Latin: one of them, quotīdiānum "daily," is an inadequate, even wrong translation of epioúsion, but it was used in Tyndale's translation of the Bible (1534) and the King James Bible (1611), and it is used today in most modern English translations. Hapax legomenon entered English in the late 17th century.

THE ODD WORD

Ecdysiast

Striptease performer.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

A different kettle of fish

Meaning: 'A different kettle of fish' is an alternative to what has been previously considered; a different thing altogether. For example, we might offer to have a friend stay for a few days but remark that a stay of a few months would be a different kettle of fish.
Origin: Before we can get to grips with 'a different kettle of fish' we need to know what 'a kettle of fish' is when it isn't different. The expression 'a kettle of fish' means a mess or a muddle. A different kettle of fishI should mention at this point that there are conflicting opinions to what the 'kettle' being referred to in that phrase was. That needn't concern us here as 'a different kettle of fish' derives from 'a kettle of fish' whatever that phrase's origin. The 'different' variant is much later than the original 'pretty' form, from which it clearly derives, despite the two phrases have very different meanings. The expression dates from the late 19th century and was found most commonly in Scotland and the north of England (where fish kettles were and still are quite commonplace). This early citation comes from a report in the English newspaper the Morning Advertiser, June 1847: In plain English, a master is responsible for the acts of his servants, and he must either be sent to the right-about by the railway authorities hereafter, or boil a very different kettle of fish.

QUOTE BOX

Peace is purchased from strength. It's not purchased from weakness or unilateral retreats. **—Benjamin Netanyahu**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Put up to it.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

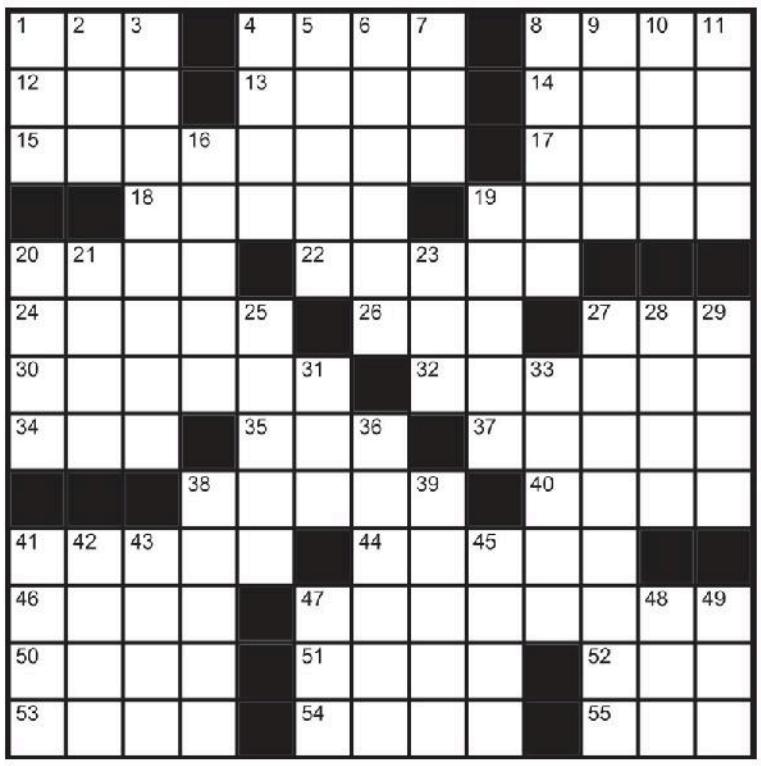
1 61 in Roman numerals
4 Church recess
8 Developed tadpole
12 "Even" in short for the poet
13 Indian language of yore
14 Star Wars princess
15 Hooked
17 Compass point
18 Rub out
19 Personal servant
20 Mexican snack
22 Belgian battle
24 Fragrant - "telon" anagram?
26 Currency of Japan
27 Iffy sched. letters
30 Faculties
32 Famous spinach consumer
34 ___ free : liberate, release or emancipate
35 Master of Accountancy, acronym?
37 Underground worker
38 Dismay or horrify
40 Monetary unit in many a South American countries
41 South African grassland
44 Tribal symbol
46 Distinctive air
47 Completely
50 Programmable Read-Only Memory
51 Stretched very tight
52 Maiden name prefix
53 Electrically charged atoms
54 Lhasa ____ : a type of pet furry dog?
55 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

A	B	E	L	■	M	L	A	■	L	E	N	A
R	E	L	Y	■	R	A	R	A	A	V	I	S
C	H	A	M	P	I	O	N	S	H	I	P	S
A	L	L	A	H	■	■	I	P	O	D	■	■
■	■	■	N	A	P	■	■	I	R	E	N	E
I	L	O	■	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	C	E
D	I	N	■	M	E	S	S	I	■	C	O	L
E	N	T	R	A	N	C	E	S	■	E	S	S
E	T	H	I	C	■	■	E	T	S	■	■	■
■	■	E	D	I	T	■	■	R	A	C	E	S
R	A	J	E	S	H	C	H	A	U	H	A	N
S	H	O	R	T	E	S	T	■	T	A	T	E
T	A	B	S	■	E	T	C	■	E	R	S	E

DOWN

1 Poetic word for grass-land
2 Marked wrong
3 Offensive to common modesty
4 Air pollution control assoc.
5 A person who is easily fooled?
6 Somnolent
7 Ramzan for one, Bakri for another
8 Dog irritants!
9 Genuine
10 French river
11 General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs
16 Fetters
19 Poison
20 Lob
21 Out of the wind
23 Corded cloth
25 Entice
27 Habitation
28 Extras at cricket
29 Prefix meaning `to do with aircraft'
31 The juice of a tree or plant
33 Scottish musician
36 Forty winks
38 ___ ale : water for drinking?
39 Type of waterlily
41 Industrially developed Gujarat city
42 Continental coin
43 Author Hubbard (1,3)
45 Partisan commander of erstwhile Yugoslavia
47 Estimated time of arrival, in short
48 Sheltered side
49 Up to now



SUDOKU

2			9				3	4
3						9		
	9	6				5		
			3		6			7
				2				
8			5		1			
		3				4	9	
		7						5
6	5				8			1

Answer to previous puzzle

2	8	7	4	1	3	5	6	9
3	6	1	2	5	9	7	8	4
9	5	4	8	6	7	1	2	3
5	7	8	6	3	1	4	9	2
1	2	6	9	8	4	3	5	7
4	3	9	7	2	5	6	1	8
8	4	2	5	7	6	9	3	1
6	9	3	1	4	2	8	7	5
7	1	5	3	9	8	2	4	6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

KQF TJWLKF PWF LKKFBX D RFBKDJWKI,

KQF PGGPXJKF RPTFX KP TJWM.

TODAY'S CLUE: K EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Many people would sooner die than think; In fact, they do so.

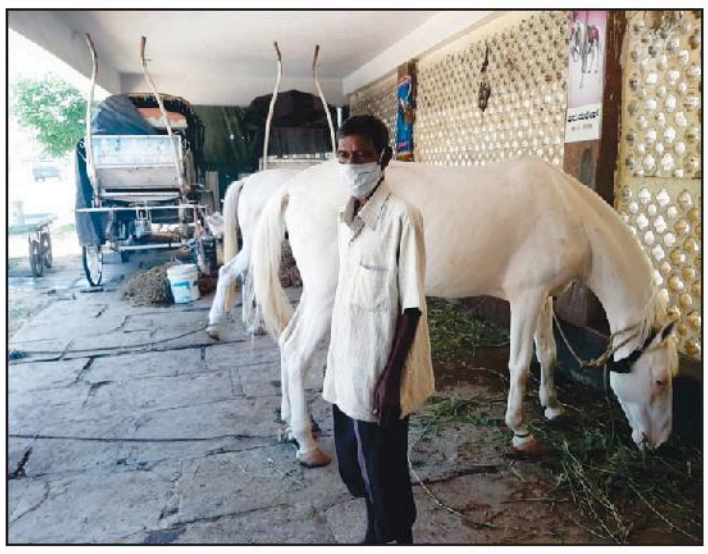
City Tongawallas lead a life of misery

Mysuru, May 23 (RK&SSV)- The first and second wave of COVID-19 pandemic have ruined the lives of Tongawallas who squarely depend on tourists for their survival as well of their dependents.

Since last year, tourism has hit the rock bottom in Mysuru, one of the main tourist destinations in the country, with months of lockdown, followed by slowdown of economy and fear among people due to Coronavirus. When the economy was about to pickup, the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic has once again hit lives of these people who cannot feed their families and the horses.

Tongas are one of the main tourist attractions in city and visitors derive pleasure in going in these old transport, much before the arrival of buses or auto-rickshaws, around the majestic Mysore Palace.

However, with no tourist footfall in city since last two months, the tongas are parked near RMC Private Bus Terminal, KSRTC Mofussil Bus Stand, near People's Park, near Agrahara Circle and opposite Kukkarahalli Lake.



Seventy-year-old Muniraj who lives with horses at tonga stand.

The Tongawallas are now looking at donors to feed the horses which costs around Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 per day. They have to be given fodder including horse gram, husk and green grass. But, Tongawallas have absolutely no money to feed them daily.

There are around 69 tongas in city. Anticipating good business, some of them have taken loan to buy each horse at Rs. 2.5 lakh and have spent Rs. 2 lakh on the new Tonga. Since they have no income for more than two months, their future looks bleak.

Seventy-year-old **Muniraj,** who lives along with horses at the tonga stand built opposite Kukkarahalli Lake under NURM project, told *Star of Mysore* that their life has come to streets with no business in the last two months. During normal days earlier, they were earning some income which was sufficient to feed their families, horses and also for loan repayment.

"We pray the State Government to give us financial assistance at least till the situation comes to normal. Otherwise, our future will be wiped out in this Corona crisis," he noted.

Tongas parked at the stand near Kukkarahalli Lake.

A portion of the tonga stand near Kukkarahalli Lake where Muniraj resides.

FKCCI urges Govt. to provide concessions

Bengaluru, May 23 (UNI)- Facing severe hardship due to the extended lockdown across the State, the **Federation of Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI)** has urged for concessions from the State Government to the business community for the loss incurred during lockdown.

In a statement issued here yesterday, FKCCI President Perikal Sundar said: "We urge the State Government to waive fixed charges on power levied by State-run distributors on all industrial and commercial establishments, which are reeling under the COVID-induced lockdown that has been extended till June 7."

The trade body also asked the Government to defer payment of power and water bills by 3 months till August 31, as trading and business activities have come to a standstill due to the lockdown imposed since April 27 to contain the virus spread.

"The State Government should reduce property taxes and licence fee by 50 percent to all industries and commercial firms and defer their payment by 3 months," reiterated Sundar.

"The State Government should reimburse salaries and wages paid to employees by traders, manufacturers, businesses and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for 3 months," he said.

Alternately, the Government should credit Rs. 10,000 per month in the Bank accounts of all employees working in the private sector, as a financial package, said the statement.

Though the lockdown has been further extended, the trade body said industries should be allowed to resume functioning from May 24, at least in Bengaluru, where COVID cases have come down since the last 10 days. "The Agriculture Producers Market Committee's (APMC) Yards and businesses should be allowed to function from 6 am to 6 pm from May 24 to recover from the losses they have suffered due to the lockdown," Sundar said.

In a related development, the **Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC)** has urged the Chief Minister to grant aid to all working in the Kannada film industry, popularly known as Sandalwood, as they have been facing financial crisis due to the extended lockdown.

"About 18,000 people employed in Sandalwood have been without work since April 27 when the lockdown was imposed and extended by another 5 weeks," said KFCC Secretary N.M. Suresh in a memorandum submitted to the Chief Minister.

Donations pour in to CM Relief Fund

Mysuru, May 23- **TVS Motor Company, along with Sundaram Clayton Limited,** donated Rs. 1 crore to Chief Minister's Relief Fund besides donating 300 Oxygen Concentrators and other medical equipment worth Rs. 3 crore through its CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) arm — Srinivasan Services Trust.

The donations were handed over to CM B.S. Yediyurappa by TVS Motor Company Vice-President (Corporate Relations) V.R. Karunakar Reddy and Associate Vice-President Sethuraman.

Suttur Mutt to lend hostel buildings and community halls for quarantine

Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji addressing press persons after a meeting with District Minister S.T. Somashekar at Suttur Mutt at the foot of Chamundi Hill in city yesterday.

Mysuru, May 23 (YDS&DM)-With the second wave of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic causing a huge havoc, the Suttur Mutt has come forward to let out its student hostels and community halls for quarantine purposes. Speaking to press persons after a meeting with District Minister S.T. Somashekar at Suttur Mutt at the foot of Chamundi Hill here yesterday, Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji said that the District Minister discussed about setting up a Step-Down Hospital in the Mutt premises.

Lauding the Minister for visiting all the taluks for getting first-hand information about COVID control, he said that he has given oral permission to Mysuru District Minister Somashekar and Chamarajanagar District Minister Suresh Kumar for using the Hostels attached to educational institutions of the Mutt at Suttur, Mysuru, Nanjangud, Chamarajanagar, Gundlupet and Kollegal and the Mutt's community halls in Nanjangud, Gundlupet, T. Narasipur, H.D. Kote, Saragur, Suttur and Ramapura.

Stating that the Mutt and JSS Mahavidaypeetha will take the responsibility of house-keeping and free food supplies to all inmates, the Seer said that the Government should take responsibility of treatment and supply of medicines. Maintaining that the buildings together can accommodate 6,000 to 8,000 people for quarantine, he said that yoga teachers at Suttur will teach yoga for free to the infected. The Seer also announced that the Mutt will provide 6 loads of firewood for the conduct of last rites of COVID dead.

Minister Somashekar said that he visited hospitals and COVID Care Centres at T. Narasipur, Nanjangud and Varuna. Observing that treatment facilities and medicare were good in these hospitals, he thanked Suttur Seer for coming to the aid of the District Administration in this hour of crisis.

Pointing out that the Seer has given permission for using the Mutt's hostel buildings and community halls in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts, the Minister said that he will make arrangements for medical treatment and medicine supplies at these quarantine centres which will be started soon.

Continuing, Somashekar said that he has directed doctors and ASHA workers to visit every household in villages for swab collection. He also pointed out that he has instructed the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP) and the Legislators of the district to visit every Assembly segment.

He further said that two villages in Nanjangud taluk having a population of 2,000 each, have not reported any Corona cases so far. Noting that the two villages have blocked people from either entering or leaving the village, he observed that they have shown the way of checking the spread of the virus.

MP Pratap Simha, MLA L. Nagendra, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, Jungle Lodges and Resorts Chairman M. Appanna, Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy, MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag, MUDA Commissioner D.B. Natesh and the District Minister's Special Officer on Duty Dinesh Gooligowda were present.

COVID Care Centres in all Assembly segments

(Continued from page 1)

In rural areas, the CCCs will be opened at hobli levels and Zilla Panchayat (ZP) CEO Yogesh has been put in charge of this. He said that in the existing CCCs in taluks, there are over 2,000 beds and of them, 1,400 are occupied. "We are ready to open CCCs in all hoblis and necessary arrangements for food and medicare are being made. We are in contact with all the 366 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Mysuru district and guidelines are being issued to prevent the disease spread in rural areas," he told *Star of Mysore*.

At each village, a Task Force has been formed comprising the Panchayat President, Vice-President, Members, Panchayat Development Officers (PDOs), Village Accountants (VAs), Health Workers, ASHA workers and volunteers and whoever tests positive are being shifted to CCCs and more serious cases are being referred to the District War Room so that they can be hospitalised. If an entire family is infected, they will be advised for home isolation where essentials are provided at their doorsteps and if one or two members of the family contract the disease, they will be sent to the nearest CCC in order to prevent further spread of the disease, he said.

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We pray for the departed soul rest in peace
Grieving: Family Members, Friends & Relatives
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Chief Engineer, BARC, Mysuru invites for & on behalf of the President of India, sealed item rate tenders from experienced contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for following work(s).

Tender Reference No.	**BARC/MYS/PO&M/NRK/SS, Monel piping/2021-23**
Name of work	Fabrication of Stainless Steel, Monel piping & related MS structural support including erection & testing works in process facilities, at BARC site, Mysuru.
Estimated Cost	₹ **75,00,000 /-** (Rupees Seventy-Five Lakhs only)
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Sale of Tender Documents	From **24.05.2021 (11:00 Hrs.)** to **08.06.2021 (15:00 Hrs.)**

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Chief Engineer, BARC
For & on behalf of President of India

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